

Message Text

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TAGS:PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT:NOVEMBER 10 PRESS ROUNDUP

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

1. UPI REPORTED THAT TENTH ANNOUNCED U.S. NUCLEAR TEST OF YEAR WAS EXPLODED NOVEMBER 9. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SAID NUCLEAR WARHEAD BURIED 2,300 FEET UNDER DESERT ABOUT 900 MILES NORTH OF LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, WAS EXPLODED AT TWO P.M. (PST). FEDERAL SPOKESMAN SAID BLAST PRODUCED EXPLOSIVE FORCE SOMEWHERE IN WIDE RANGE BETWEEN 20 AND 150 KILOTONS, OR EQUIVALENT OF EXPLODING 20,000 TO 150,000 TONS OF TNT.
 2. WASHINGTON POST SAID NOVEMBER 9 MEETING BETWEEN AMBAS-SADOR TOON AND PRESIDENT BREZHNEV WAS FIRST LENGTHY TETE-A-TETE BETWEEN THEM SINCE JULY "WHEN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS
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WERE ENTERING CHILLY STAGE." IN WASHINGTON, OFFICIALS SAID CARTER'S LETTER TO BREZHNEV, TIMED TO 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET REVOLUTION, DEALT WITH "SUBSTANTIVE" ISSUES INVOLVED IN ARMS CONTROL TALKS, NEGOTIATIONS ON TOTAL NUCLEAR TEST BAN, AND OTHER SUBJECTS. WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY JODY POWELL SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WERE "NO NEW AMERICAN PRO-POSALS ON SALT OR ANYTHING ELSE" IN PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

TOON GAVE BREZHNEV. POST REPORTED THAT AN ADMINISTRATION

OFFICIAL SAID LETTER WAS PART OF AN EXPANDING AMERICAN-SOVIET DIALOGUE WHICH "REFLECTS FACT THAT THERE IS MORE OF WORKING EXCHANGE GOING ON NOW." ADMINISTRATION ALSO SAID, POST CONTINUED, IT WANTED TO EXPAND TOON'S PARTICIPATION IN HIGH LEVEL EXCHANGES AND THAT HOUR-LONG MEETING WITH BREZHNEV SERVED THAT PURPOSE. "ALTHOUGH BREZHNEV-TOON MEETING TOUCHED OFF ANOTHER BURST OF SPECULATION THAT SALT NEGOTIATIONS MAY BE NEAR COMPLETION, ADMINISTRATION SOURCES SAID ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE WAS SOMETIME 'EARLY NEXT YEAR, POST POINTED OUT.

3. DANIEL SOUTHERLAND OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR SAID CARTER ADMINISTRATION "CAN NOW CONCEIVE OF U.S.-SOVIET SUMMIT MEETING NEXT YEAR AT WHICH AT LEAST THREE IMPORTANT ARMS LIMITATION TREATIES WOULD BE SIGNED." SOUTHERLAND SAID OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO INSIST, HOWEVER, THAT "DIFFICULT ISSUES" HAVE YET TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE FINAL AGREEMENT ON MOST IMPORANT OF SUCH POSSIBLE TREATIES -- ONE LIMITING STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS. "TREATIES WITH SOVIETS WHICH COULD BE SIGNED SOMETIME NEXT YEAR -- BY MIDYEAR, SOME SOURCES SAY -- WOULD DEAL WITH STRATEGIC ARMS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING AND NAVAL ACTIVITY IN INDIAN OCEAN," SOUTHERLAND POINTED OUT. "OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, CAUTION THAT AN EVENT SUCH AS TRIAL OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY, PRO-UNCLASSIFIED

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MINENT SOVIET DISSIDENT, COULD CREATE STRONG ENOUGH PUBLIC REACTION IN U.S. TO SLOW DOWN, IF NOT DISRUPT CURRENT 'UPWARD MOVEMENT' IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS." MONITOR CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW, DAVID K. WILLIS, REPORTED THAT SIGNS THERE INDICATE THAT FIRST TRIAL OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS COULD BEGIN SOON. WILLIS SAID NEW BURST OF ANTI-SOVIET DISTRUST IN CONGRESS AND AROUND U.S.COULD MAKE IT MUCH HARDER FOR CARTER TO OBTAIN SENATE RATIFICATION OF NEW SALT AGREEMENT. REPORTEDLY, HE SAID THIS POINT HAS BEEN MADE BY PRESIDENT AND VANCE IN RECENT WEEKS TO GROMYKO AND DOBRYNIN. WILLIS SAID SOME OBSERVERS CONCLUDED THAT TASS REPORT ON TOON-BREZHNEV MEETING "WAS MEANT AS DOUBLE SIGNAL: STRATEGIC ARMS ARE STILL ON TRACK -- BUT STAY AWAY FROM WAY WE HANDLE OUR DISSIDENTS (I.E., UPCOMING TRIALS). IF THIS DOUBLE SIGNAL WAS INTENDED, THEN NUMBER OF CLOSE OBSERVERS HERE FEEL HUMAN RIGHTS PITFALL COULD BE DEEP INDEED."

3. HENRY BRADSHER OF WASHINGTON STAR SAID ADVOCATES OF THREE NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS FEEL THEIR POSITION HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY ADMINISTRATION STATEMENT THAT MINUTEMAN FORCE WILL BECOME VULNERABLE TO SOVIET ATTACK BEFORE 1985.

BRADSHER SAID SOME DEFENSE ANALYSTS FEEL U.S., IN ORDER TO PRESERVE NUCLEAR DETERRENT TRIAD, NEEDS TO GO AHEAD WITH PROGRAM COSTING 35 BILLION TO 40 BILLION DOLLARS FOR BUILDING MX MISSILE. "THEY ALSO ARGUE GROWING VULNERABILITY OF LAND-BASED MISSILES GIVES NEW IMPORTANCE TO LONG-RANGE CRUISE MISSILES LAUNCHED FROM BOMBERS, AND LONG-RANGE UNDERWATER MISSILE, TRIDENT TWO," BRADSHER SAID. "BOTH CRUISE MISSILES AND TRIDENT TWO ARE TO BE RESTRICTED FOR THREE YEARS IN PROTOCOL BEING NEGOTIATED WITH NEW STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS TREATY, SALT TWO. CRITICS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTEND MINUTEMAN SITUATION MAKES PROTOCOL INADVISABLE."

4. BERNARD T. FELD, IN EDITORIAL IN NOVEMBER BULLETIN OF ATOMIC SCIENTISTS, SAID SENATE RATIFICATION OF TTB AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PNE TREATIES "WOULD BE WORSE THAN BAD JOKE -- IT WOULD BE DISASTER." FELD SAID "AFTER DUE AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS SHOULD REFER TREATIES BACK TO ADMINISTRATION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO CTB, INCLUDING PNE'S AND THEREBY ALLOW THEM TODIE WELL-DESERVED DEATH."

5. THOMAS O'TOOLE OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT SCIENTISTS AT OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY HAVE SAID IT IS TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE FOR "BANDIT NATION" TO PRODUCE ENOUGH PLUTONIUM FROM URANIUM TO MAKE CRUISE ATOMIC BOMB IN SIX MONTHS. O'TOOLE SAID "THIS CONCLUSION CAME FROM PAPER CONNECTED WITH DESIG OF PRODUCTION FACILITY SCIENTISTS DRAFTED FOR THEIR OWN USE, BUT WHICH HAS BEEN CIRCULATING IN WASHINGTON." O'TOOLE SAID IN DESIGN OF WHAT REPORT CALLS "QUICK AND SIMPLE" REPROCESSING PLANT, NOTHIN IS AUTOMATED. WINERY, DAIRY OR OIL REFINERY COULD BE CONVERTED TO PLUTONIUM EXTRACTION, REPORT SAYS. IT ALSO ASSUMED THAT COUNTRY WANTING TO MAKE PLUTONIUM FOR WEAPONS WOULD HAVE "ADEQUATE AND READY FUNDS" AND "SYMPATHETIC AND FRIENDLY POPULACE," O'TOOLE SAID. IN REPORT IDENTIFIED AS "INTRAALABORATORY" CORRESPONDENCE, OAK RIDGE SCIENTISTS SAID ANY NATION THAT WANTED TO BUILD PLANT IN SIX MONTHS TO EXTRACT PLUTONIUM FROM SPENT URANIUM FUEL AND THEN BEGIN PRODUCTION OF THAT PLUTONIUM INSIDE OF WEEK. ONCE IN PRODUCTION, PLANT COULD MAKE ENOUGH PLUTONIUM EVERY MONTH FOR TEN NUCLEAR WEAPONS, REPORT SAID. CRITICS OF CARTER PLAN, O'TOOLE NOTED, SAY OAK RIDGE REPORT DEALS BLOW TO CARTER POLICY BECAUSE IT PROVES THAT ELABORATE REPROCESSING IS NOT NEEDED AND THAT FAST BREEDER REACTORS ARE NOT NEEDED TO PRODUCE PLUTONIUM FOR BOMBS AROUND WORLD. VANCE

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